

Vol. 5, No. 24



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Season's
Greetings



NEW ENGLAND GENEROSITY is displayed by Local 513 Executive Board gathered at headquarters of the RWDSU's New England Joint Board to arrange for distribution of holiday baskets to 300 members of the local. Shown above in front row, left to right, are: NEJB Pres. Joseph H. Honan, Arthur Flint, Robert Barr, Milt Savas, John McDevitt, Board Vice-Pres. Edward Ryan, the daughter of a NEJB member, Local 513 Pres. Joseph Gildea and Gerald Byrne. In back row are: Angelo Campisi, Edward McGovern, Guy Colletti, Harry Hill and Sec.-Treas. Al Manzo.

1959 — A Preview

Political Skies Ahead Brighter for Labor

By ALEXANDER UHL

WASHINGTON (PAI)—For organized labor, 1959 is a year of opportunity.

The year 1958 was the year of opportunity for labor's enemies. Extension of "right-to-work" laws in new states; the crippling of labor by legislation designed to weaken it under the guise of driving out corruption; a determined effort to drive labor from the political arena. These were the great 1958 goals of anti-labor forces.

The campaign failed utterly in the face of successful efforts by labor to clean out its own house, to drive back the "right-to-work" forces and to elect its friends and defeat its enemies. The "opportunity" for labor's enemies was muffed. Now the shoe is on the other foot.

Never since the great days of the New Deal under Franklin Roosevelt has the labor-liberal viewpoint been represented so powerfully as it will be in the new 86th Congress which will open on January 7.

It is a young Congress in the sense that most of its newcomers are relatively youthful and come from the post-war rather than the pre-war days. It is a Congress that has lost a heavy percentage of aging and highly reactionary membership.

And it is a Congress that was elected despite the old propaganda cries of "radical," "spendthrifts," "irresponsibles" and "labor bosses"—cries that were rejected by the American voter all across the land.

New Congress Most Liberal Since '36

By every criterion, the new Congress is immensely more liberal than almost every Congress since 1936.

The degree of fright that this has caused in the conservative business community can be gauged by such hysterical headlines as "Congressional Spenders & Union Bosses Ready Gigantic 1958 Bureaucratic Expansion Program" published in the post-election edition of the NAM News, official organ of the National Association of Manufacturers.



LOCAL 1-8 DELEGATES at N. Y. State AFL-CIO merger convention get inside info on union labels from a pretty model at Amalgamated Clothing Workers booth. Miss Union Label is displaying blown-up label found inside every union-made man's suit.

Sensing the mandate that the American people have given his party to take strong, vigorous action to resolve the problems of unemployment and recession, Senator Lyndon Johnson, Senate Democratic leader and himself far from a "radical" or "fiscal irresponsible," has jumped to the front with a broad program of progressive legislation including support for housing and public works.

From the labor viewpoint an even more progressive program for 1959 has been outlined by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO. This program is by no means composed of bread and butter items only. It also includes progressive legislation of importance to all Americans.

High on the list is a complete overhaul of Taft-Hartley with special attention to Section 14(b) which permits the States to forbid negotiations of the union shop, and Section 9(c) (3) which deprives economic strikers of their right to vote in representation elections. This is the infamous "union busting" provision of Taft-Hartley which is now being used by the National Labor Relations Board to weaken picketing and boycott rights.

The AFL-CIO will support a new version of the Kennedy-Ives bill passed by the 85th Congress, but will demand that the anti-labor aspects of the bill written into it on the floor of the Senate be deleted. AFL-CIO President George Meany has made it clear that the Federation welcomes legislation that will help protect union members from unscrupulous racketeers, but he has made it equally clear that it will fight tooth and nail any attempt to weaken unions under the guise of "reforming" them.

Also high on the list as part of the AFL-CIO drive for an expanding economy to reduce unemployment is extension of the minimum wage to millions of workers now denied its protection, and an increase from the present \$1 an hour to \$1.25. The boost is long overdue. The AFL-CIO asked for \$1.25 when the increase to \$1 an hour from 75 cents was made in 1956 in the face of the Administration limitation of 90 cents an hour.

Broad Economic Gains Sought

Other economic gains to be fought for include improvements in Walsh-Healey and Davis-Bacon to protect workers on public contract jobs; improvements in the unemployment compensation system which showed its defects during the recession when hundreds of thousands of workers exhausted such benefits as they had and had to turn to public assistance; increased retirement and unemployment benefits for railroad workers who have been unusually hard hit by the recession, and a tax cut for low and middle income families so as to expand purchasing power and get the jobless back to work.

On a broader front, the AFL-CIO will fight for improvements in civil rights legislation, federal aid for education and housing, liberalization of immigration laws; the granting of greater freedom for the development of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and expansion of the program to apply atomic energy to peace-time uses.

An important piece of unfinished business is legislation to help the chronically depressed areas where unemployment has been heavy and continuous, such as in the coal mining regions and the textile regions in New England. Such legislation was passed by the 85th Congress but vetoed by President Eisenhower.

What kind of reception is this program likely to receive when it starts moving in the 86th Congress?

Already there is every indication that it will be fought savagely both by the Eisenhower Administration and the economy bloc in Congress which is a whole lot smaller than it used to be but is still a powerful force.

President Eisenhower himself has sounded the "economy" note even though he is going to bring in a huge \$80 billion budget—the biggest in peacetime history. Everything indicates that the "hold the line" groups will fight to keep down appropriations for the social services and prevent any effort to improve benefits. Presidential vetoes are predicted.

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NOTICE TO READERS

The Record's schedule of publication provides for 24 issues a year. Accordingly, there will be only one issue in January, dated Jan. 18, 1959. See you then!

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rwdsu RECORD

RWDSU OPENS CAMPAIGN TO AID ISRAEL LABOR

Meany, Reuther, Jodoin, Goldberg Are Honorary Chairmen of Drive

The outstanding labor leaders of the U.S. and Canada, and one of America's top labor attorneys, have consented to serve as honorary chairmen of the RWDSU drive to raise \$100,000 in support of Histadrut, the labor federation of Israel. The money will be used to erect a cultural center in Ramat Gan, an important Israeli industrial town.

The four honorary chairmen of the drive are:

- George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO.
- Walter P. Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers and of the Industrial Union Depot, AFL-CIO.
- Claude Jodoin, president of the Canadian Labor Congress.
- Arthur J. Goldberg, special counsel to the AFL-CIO, and counsel to its Ethical Practices Committee, the IUD, the Steelworkers and other unions including the RWDSU, which he serves as Washington counsel.

All four honorary chairmen have long been identified with support of Histadrut and its efforts to develop the State of Israel as a bastion of democracy in the Middle East and a

haven for persecuted Jews from other lands.

The RWDSU fund-raising drive, which has been officially labeled the RWDSU/Histadrut Campaign, is being led by Pres. Max Greenberg, who is serving as chairman. The other top officers of the International union—Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps, Exec. Sec. Jack Paley and Exec. Vice-Presidents Arthur Osman and Alex Ball—have been designated as co-chairmen.

Sponsors of Campaign

The other 31 members of the International Executive Board have been named vice-chairmen of the campaign. In addition, a long list of leaders of locals in every part of the U.S. and Canada—including field representatives and members of the RWDSU General Council—are to serve as a sponsoring committee.

The day-to-day work of the campaign is being led by Jack Paley, who is also serving as executive director of the drive. Assisting him are 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock and Managing Editor Bernard Stephens.

Initial plans for fund-raising call for distribution of Honor Rolls through RWDSU locals. These will provide an opportunity for mem-

bers to contribute directly and to have their donation recorded on the Honor Roll itself, which will be presented to Histadrut at the conclusion of the campaign.

A second phase of the fund-raising campaign will be solicitation of advertisements from employers with whom RWDSU locals hold contracts, as well as from the locals themselves and others, for a special journal to be issued in connection with the campaign. Advertising contracts have already been printed and are being made available to the local unions.

Pres. Greenberg announced that every penny collected in the drive, whether through Honor Roll contributions or ads, will be turned over to Histadrut for construction of the Ramat Gan Cultural Center. The RWDSU itself will underwrite all expenses of the campaign as part of its own contribution to Histadrut.

The RWDSU/Histadrut Campaign, which was authorized by the International Executive Board at its meeting Sept. 28, is expected to run through the entire year of 1959. It will be the largest fund-raising drive of its kind ever undertaken by the RWDSU.

Labor Kicks Off '59 Wage Law Coverage Drive

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The campaign to win coverage under the federal wage-hour law for millions of retail employees and others not now covered has won a unanimous pledge of support from hundreds of leaders of AFL-CIO unions. The labor representatives gathered in the capital Dec. 4 and 5 at a two-day conference called by the AFL-CIO and the National Consumers League to mark the 20th anniversary of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The RWDSU and other unions especially concerned with the question of coverage sounded an urgent plea to the AFL-CIO to make extension a prime legislative objective in 1959. This appeal won an affirmative response from every speaker, from Pres. George Meany on down. Even though the conference went on record as supporting a \$1.25-an-hour minimum instead of the present \$1 figure, it was made clear, in the words of AFL-CIO Legislative Dir. Andrew J. Blennier, that "labor will not sacrifice extension of coverage for a higher minimum wage."

The RWDSU was represented at the conference

by Pres. Max Greenberg, Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps, Exec. Sec. Jack Paley, Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Ball and 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock. A panel of union staff members who participated in a discussion on coverage following an address by Sen. Paul Douglas included Steinbock, as well as representatives of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, the Retail Clerks Int'l Association and the Communications Workers. (See Page 9 for excerpts from Sen. Douglas' speech.)

Meanwhile the Eisenhower Administration remained uneasily on the sidelines as labor moved forward its campaign to bring additional millions of workers under the wage-hour law.

Labor Sec. James P. Mitchell, in a speech read to the conference when he was unable to appear because of illness, passed up an opportunity to voice the Administration's present position on improvements in the wage-hour law.

In 1957, during the first session of the 85th Congress, Mitchell proposed extending coverage to an additional 2.5 million workers—as contrasted with 10 million who would have been covered under the AFL-CIO-endorsed Morse-Kelley bill. The Administration bill would have provided only minimum wage coverage—with no requirement for time-and-a-half overtime pay.

Mitchell made no reference to either the 1957 proposal or any new position, confining his speech to problems of enforcement of the present law.

He said he will ask Congress to allow the Labor Dept. to sue employers to recover back wages for workers who were paid less than the legal minimum. Forty percent of the money owed employees is never recovered at present, he said, because workers are afraid to authorize legal action against their bosses.

In a nationwide radio broadcast, Pres. Meany declared the election of many new liberals to Congress makes the prospects for an improved wage-hour law "more promising than they have been in a long time."

Powerful business lobbies, Meany charged, have been responsible for denying minimum wage protection to large groups of low-paid workers. Meany accused big business of "hiding behind the camouflage of small business" in seeking exemption from the act.

"Poverty Still in Our Midst"

"The amount of poverty still in our midst, the substandard wages still being paid to millions, cry out for attention," Leon H. Keyserling, former chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, told the opening session. Another key speaker was Rep. Richard Bolling (D-Mo.), who led discussion on the need for a higher minimum wage.

Frances Perkins, who was labor secretary at the time the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed

ed and signed in 1938, also participated in the program.

Sen. Douglas placed the major blame on "delayed tactics" for stalling wage-hour legislation in the last Congress. He called extension of coverage of the act "one of the major unfinished tasks of the Congress."

Douglas told the conference not to be "frightened by threats" of veto if the legislation is broader than the Administration desires.

In a pessimistic statement Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) told a press conference he plans to carry on "as hard a fight as I can" against liberalization of the Wage-Hour Act but predicted the Senate Labor subcommittee will approve extension of coverage and a \$1.25 minimum wage.

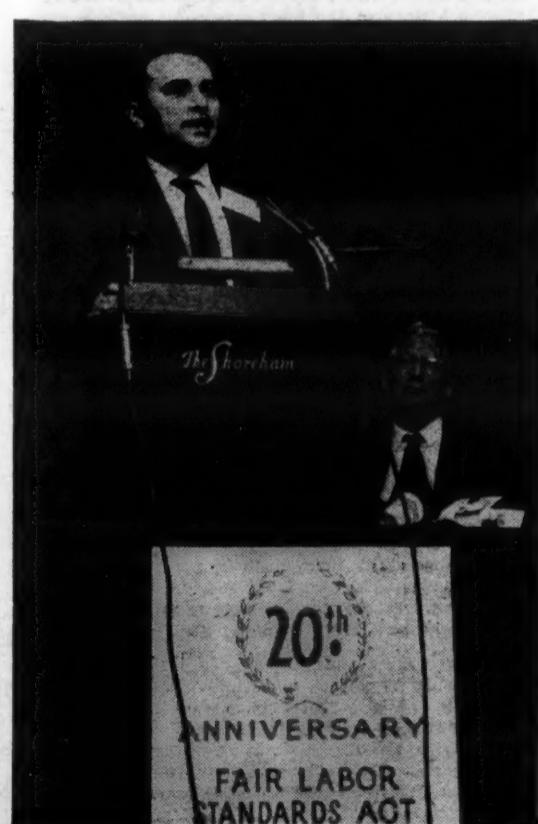
Labor and liberals plan to fight with facts and figures the crocodile tears shed by powerful business lobbies over the sad plight of "small business" if federal minimum wage coverage is extended, the conference revealed.

Speaker after speaker emphasized that there is nothing small about the principal industries now exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Most important in terms of numbers of workers affected are the big retail stores, many of them branch operations of multi-million dollar chains. Regardless of size or volume of business, they can pay employees as little as the traffic will bear—in some cases less than 50 cents an hour, with no overtime after 40 hours a week.



"TEST OF OUR PROGRESS" was the title of pageant celebrating 20th anniversary of Fair Labor Standards Act. Second from left is Helen Gahagan Douglas, the narrator. To her right is labor songwriter Joe Glaser. Others in photo are from Drama Group of Catholic University.



APPEAL FOR SUPPORT of RWDSU campaign to win wage-hour coverage for retail employees was made by 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock, following address by Sen. Paul Douglas, right. (Excerpts from speech by Sen. Douglas on Page 9.)

Ohio Court Upsets SUB; Now in Legislature's Lap

COLUMBUS (PAI)—Ohio unionists are looking to the Democratic-controlled state legislature for action to permit simultaneous payment of supplemental unemployment benefits and jobless compensation following an Ohio Supreme Court ban against the program.

The 5-to-2 decision reversed the Mahoning County (Youngstown) courts which held, in two test cases, that Ohio law permits payments of the two at the same time. Unionists estimate that the new ruling will prevent the distribution of \$25 million to workers.

The Ohio AFL-CIO Council, in a statement, declared: "We are hopeful that the upcoming session of the legislature will take whatever steps are necessary to make payment possible."

Gov.-elect Michael V. DiSalle, who was voted into office with labor backing, announced that he would ask the next session of the legislature to enact a law permitting laid-off workers to receive both types of payments at the same time. He stated that labor and management should work out their own problems, but this was one of the areas where state legislation is needed.

Ohio is one of few states which has such a ban on SUB payments along with jobless benefits. Other such states include Indiana, North Carolina and Virginia. Lower courts and the Republican State Administration had ruled against simultaneous payments but this was upset by the Mahoning County courts.

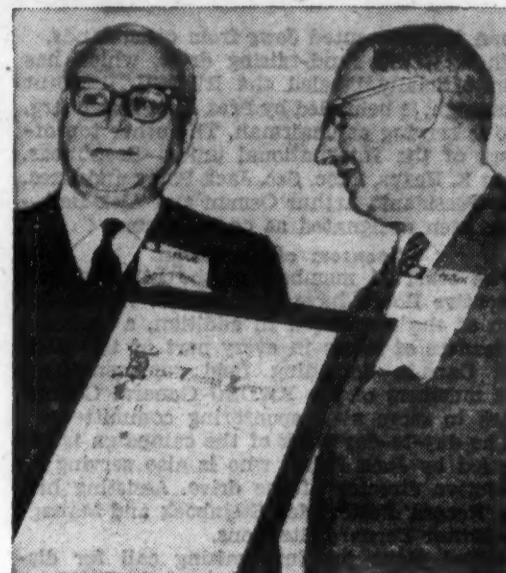
The state's high court justices split on the question of whether supplemental unemployment benefits constitute remuneration for personal services by workers as defined by law. The majority opinion was that supplemental payments were remuneration for personal services, since a laid-off worker retains his basic standing and pension right. In the minority opinion, written by Justice Kingsley A. Taft, it was contended that these payments do not constitute remuneration for personal service since the worker is unemployed.

SUB plans vary. Generally, they provide for payment of up to 65 percent of normal take-home pay during the first four weeks of unemployment and 60 percent through the next 22 weeks.

Pamphlet on Strike Aid

NEW YORK CITY—The mechanics of setting up an effective strike assistance program are outlined in a new pamphlet published by AFL-CIO Community Service Activities here. The publication, titled "Beyond the Picket Line," stresses that "a community has a responsibility to men and women on strike—especially to help meet their health and welfare needs adequately and expeditiously and on the basis of need regardless of the cause of that need."

The pamphlet covers in detail the organization of a strike assistance program from meeting with community agencies to training strike counselors. Copies are available for ten cents each by writing to: AFL-CIO Community Service Activities, 9 East 40th Street, New York 16, New York.



SHAME OF THE U.S.A.; Herbert V. Kohler, I., whose Kohler plumbingware company of Sheboygan, Wis., has been struck more than four years by the Auto Workers, is named "Man of the Year" by National Association of Manufacturers. Presentation is made by NAM executive committee chairman Cola G. Parker.

Rival Sea Unions Team Up Against 'Run-Away' Ships

NEW YORK (PAI)—American union seamen have launched a fight against "run-away" flag ships in cooperation with other union seamen throughout the world, but even more importantly, they have tossed away old rivalries to do it.

Pres. Paul Hall of the Seafarers International Union and Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union—rivals for many years—marched together on a picket line at Erie Basin in Brooklyn to voice the united protest of American seamen, against American ship owners who register their vessels under foreign flags in order to escape American taxes and union-won wages and living conditions.

"They said it couldn't be done," observed one union official with a smile, while Curran said jocularly, "Formerly we used to picket each other."

The protest demonstration, which lasted four days, was part of a world-wide movement by the International Transport Workers Federation to boycott vessels whose owners have registered their ships under the flags of such countries as Panama, Liberia, Honduras and Costa Rica where income taxes are low and labor standards are even lower.

So widespread has this become that such nations as the United States and Great Britain have barely been able to hold their own in sea-going tonnage while the PANIBHONCO nations, as their names have been scrambled to read, have soared from 3,000,000 tons in 1948 to 16,100,000 as of this year.

Court Overthrows NLRB's Rule Against Picketing

WASHINGTON (PAI)—The basic decision under which the National Labor Relations Board has been under-cutting union picketing and boycott rights has suffered a crushing setback with the ruling of the Court of Appeals here that it is an incorrect interpretation of the Taft-Hartley law.

The decision strengthens immensely the fight of the hard-pressed Rubber Workers to protect their picketing and boycott rights in their three-year struggle against O'Sullivan Heels at Winchester, Virginia.

It is also a powerful setback for numerous decisions which the NLRB has been handing down recently under which economic strikers have been voted out of their representation rights by strike-breakers and then have been further deprived of their right to picket and boycott.

In a 2 to 1 decision the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia held that the NLRB was in error in 1957 when it denied picketing rights to members of Local 639 of the Teamsters who were on strike against Curtis Brothers, a storage and furniture company in Washington. The strikers had lost their voting rights under Taft-Hartley and their local had lost its right to represent them as the result of a representation election in which only strike-breakers could vote.

The NLRB reasoning in the Curtis Case was that it was illegal for the ousted local to picket Curtis Brothers for organizational purposes because by its picketing it was "coercing" the company's employees. The "logic" was that the picketing could cause economic loss to the employer thus threatening the solvency of the company and making the strike-breakers worry about the security of their jobs.

This tortuous logic brought a strong dissent by NLRB member Abe Murdock, the last surviving member of the old Truman Administration appointees to the Board. Murdock declared that the NLRB majority was drawing up a wholly new definition of "coercion" under which practically any kind of picketing could be forbidden, since most picketing involves some kind of economic damage. He said that the Board had "disregarded legislative history and precedent and substituted its own judgment for that of Congress."

The Curtis case was appealed to the Court of Appeals. In the decision just made, the two-man majority—Justice David L. Bazelon and Justice George T. Washington—held that Murdock's reasoning in the Curtis case was sound and that he had "convincingly" outlined the legislative history of Taft-Hartley.

They held that the NLRB's interpretation of the meaning of "coercion and restraint" had gone too far and added that although ambiguities in the legislative history of the law's provisions against coercion existed, "the overall impression clearly emerging is that peaceful picketing to secure recognition is not prohibited by the Act."

The decision was hailed by labor lawyers as being of the utmost importance. It throws a legal block against numerous other decisions which the present NLRB has been making with its "Curtis Doctrine" as the basis for preventing picket lines and boycotts.

Sharing the Fruits of Higher Productivity in U.S.

Labor Economists Show Need to Improve Workers' Conditions as Output Rises

WASHINGTON—The continually increasing productivity of America's economic plant can bring improved wages and working conditions, shorter hours, lower prices and increased profits if the benefits are properly shared by workers, consumers and business.

That's the conclusion of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research in the November issue of Labor's Economic Review dealing with the much-discussed question of rising productivity.

Failure by business to "share the fruits of economic progress" with other groups will create "economic distortions" resulting in excessively high profits and insufficient buying power followed by production cutbacks, unemployment and depression, the Review declares.

On the basis of improved efficiency contributed to by workers, business and other forces, the Review says, "most firms can afford to grant substantial wage and fringe benefit improvements without any price increases."

"Some companies, whose efficiency is improving most rapidly, can afford to grant such improvements and reduce their prices. Other companies in which

productive efficiency is not improving may have to raise prices somewhat," it explains.

"The overall price level therefore can remain relatively stable from one year to the next while wages increase."

Productivity, says the Review, is the output per employee manhour. The increase in this output has been almost continuous, tending to speed up in the past half century.

Production Up Sharply

Since 1947 the average yearly rise in national productivity has been close to 4 percent. This compares with average annual rates of about 1.2 percent between 1900 and 1919; 2.2 percent between 1919 and 1929; 2 percent during the depression decade of the 1930s and about 2.5 to 3 percent in the period that ended with World War II and reconversion to a peace-time economy.

In 1957, the Dept. of Research publication declares, the average employed American produced \$6,773 worth of goods and services compared with \$5,739 in 1950 and \$4,071 in 1929. These figures are in constant dollars of 1957 buying power.

Rising productivity, the Review says, "means increases in output with the same or fewer manhours of work. It results in reduced production costs for each item produced."

The article cites this example: A worker whose earnings are \$2 an hour produced 10 gadgets an hour. The labor cost of each gadget is 20 cents. If that worker still earns \$2 an hour when he produced 20 gadgets in one hour, the unit labor cost drops to 10 cents. Further, as productivity increases, there is a tendency for overhead and other costs per unit to decline.

This increasing productivity can be used for improved living conditions and national strength, but if misused it can also result in unemployment and recession. Growing markets, says the Review, and improved living standards result from trade union action to improve wages, hours and working conditions; from government action to sustain prosperity and from business pricing policies that yield increased profits from low profit margins on each item sold and a growing sales volume.

The Review stresses that "it is important to remember that wages and unit labor costs are two separate things."

Shorter Week Starts Jan. 1 For 338ers

NEW YORK CITY—Five thousand retail food employees will have added reason to celebrate the New Year. They begin enjoying the benefits of a five-day, 40-hour week on Jan. 1. The new work week goes into effect under the terms of union contracts held by Retail Food Employees Local 338. It represents a reduction of five hours from the present 5½-day, 45-hour week.

Local 338 Pres. Julius Sum reported that all employers had been reminded by mail during the past month of the forthcoming reduction in hours, and urged by the union to plan new work schedules based on the 40-hour week. The Jan. 1 deadline was fixed in negotiations last year, when the two-year contracts were signed providing a \$5 wage increase for 1958 and a five-hour reduction to begin in 1959.

Pres. Sum pointed out that the Jan. 1 date will apply in all '338' shops, regardless of the contract expiration date. Agreements are staggered to expire at various times during the fall, winter and early spring and changes are usually timed to coincide with the expiration date. However, in the present instance, Sum said, it was felt that the fairest way to inaugurate the five-day, 40-hour week was to put it into effect everywhere at the same time.

Raises: Direct, Indirect

Sum noted that the reduction in hours will bring about an indirect wage increase for all workers, and a direct boost for many. The indirect increase is effected by the reduction of hours with no loss of pay, which means that '338' members will get a boost of 11% in their hourly rate. This, in turn, will mean an increase in the overtime rate for the many members who are scheduled to work more than 40 hours in one week.

Leone a Vice-Pres. Of Newly Merged Mass. AFL-CIO

BOSTON, Mass.—AFL and CIO became one in Massachusetts as 1,300 delegates representing 600,000 workers unanimously ratified a merger agreement.

The delegates named J. William Belanger, president of the former Massachusetts CIO, as president of the united organization, and Kenneth J. Kelley, secretary-treasurer of the former state AFL, to the same post in the new federation—the Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Thomas A. Leone, John A. Callahan, AFL president, and Salvatore Camello, CIO secretary-treasurer, were named executive vice presidents of the new council.

Named as one of the 31 vice presidents who with the four general officers will comprise the council, was Thomas A. Leone, RWDSU Regional Director.

R. J. Thomas, administrative assistant to George Meany, AFL-CIO president, presented the AFL-CIO charter to the new officers. He described the charter as a symbol "of the dawn of a new day in labor in Massachusetts."

Thomas told the delegates that merger "is good because unions were not built to provide jobs for leaders, but rather to advance the cause of better hours, wages and working conditions for working men and women."

December 21, 1958

New York & Northeast

Drive Launched Among 30,000 N.Y. Hospital Workers

'1199' Victory Won at Montefiore

NEW YORK CITY—Backed up by an unprecedented wave of publicity and editorials in newspapers favoring their cause, some 1,000 employees of Montefiore Hospital in The Bronx have scored an organizing breakthrough of historic importance in the hospital field. The Hospital Division of Retail Drug Local 1199, an affiliate of RWDSU, has won recognition from Montefiore and agreement to bargain for a contract to improve the incredibly bad wages and working conditions at the hospital. An election among the Montefiore employees—certain to result in a top-heavy vote for the union—will precede negotiations on the terms of the contract.

Local 1199 lost no time in following up this achievement, launching a city-wide campaign among 30,000 employees in some 80 voluntary hospitals in New York. At press-time reports from '1199' revealed that the drive is off to a fast start, with hundreds of workers signing up with the union almost as soon as they are contacted.

Two weeks ago it appeared as if the Montefiore management would refuse to recognize the union, and that the workers would be forced to strike. But a number of factors served to convince the management to withdraw from its previously adamant position and deal with the union. Chief among these was the steady succession of articles and editorials exposing the miserably low pay—starting at \$34 a week for many workers—at Montefiore. Editorials in the New York Times, The Post, El Diario and the Amsterdam News, expressed shock at the low wages and called on the hospital's management to negotiate with the union.

Montefiore's management argued that New York City's failure to pay more than \$16 a day for the care of each city patient whose cost to the hospital is \$27



RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, left, congratulates '1199' Pres. Leon Davis.

a day left the hospital unable to pay more to its workers. The agreement finally reached at Gracie Mansion Dec. 6 with the participation of Mayor Robert F. Wagner recognized this problem. It was agreed that all additional funds that the city would provide Montefiore for the care of city patients would go to the workers. A joint statement by '1199' Pres. Leon J. Davis and Montefiore's Board

Chairman Victor S. Reisenfeld expressed this agreement.

Davis hailed the assistance of RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, and of Harry Van Arsdale and Morris Iushewitz, leaders of the New York City AFL and CIO, in rallying the labor movement behind the Montefiore workers. Harold Felix, New York City labor commissioner, was also of great help, Davis said.

Nedicks Pact Brings \$50 Minimum

NEW YORK CITY—A \$50 minimum wage for the 625 employees of the Nedicks food service chain is projected in the new agreement which went into effect Dec. 18, it was reported by Local 906 Pres. Joseph McCarthy. The contract gives raises ranging from \$4 to \$6 over the two-year term and other key gains.

Calling for five-cents-an-hour increase now, and another five cents on the anniversary date, the contract will bring the minimum pay rate to \$1.25 after two years of service.

The new agreement was ratified at meetings Dec. 10 and 11 with over 90 percent of the membership present, McCarthy pointed out. Effective date of the contract was set ahead by six weeks through negotiations with the Nedicks management.

The Nedicks stores are located largely in the five boroughs of New York City. Other locations are in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Md., Philadelphia, Pa., Newark, Trenton and Paterson, N.J., Westchester County and Albany, N.Y.

Welfare Benefits Rise

Improvements in the welfare plan obtained in the new pact include an increase in employer contributions from \$2.25 to \$2.50, going up to \$2.60 on Feb. 1, 1960. Benefits provide family Blue Cross coverage, surgical care for members and their spouses, \$1,000 life insurance, and sickness and disability payments with a maximum of \$45 for 26 weeks.

Other provisions of the agreement are a 5-day, 40-hour week, six paid holidays, time and a half for overtime after eight hours, and payment for the first seven days to employees injured on the job. Another gain in the new contract is three weeks vacation after 2½ years' service. Two weeks vacation is given after two years.

With free meals and uniforms continuing as part of the agreement, combined with the projected \$50 minimum wage, McCarthy emphasized, the Nedicks workers have conditions that add up to a "good deal."



Victory smiles are displayed by '1268' officers: Sam Ringle, Joseph Binenbaum and Irving Tuckman.

Administration Slate Easily Wins Retail Shoe Local Election

NEW YORK CITY—The administration slate of candidates, headed by Business Mgr. Joseph Binenbaum, was swept back into office in Retail Shoe Employees Local 1268 by an overwhelming vote on Dec. 4. The balloting took place at the Hotel Diplomat from 6 p.m. to midnight. There was a total of 1031 votes cast.

Binenbaum and Business Agent Samuel Ringle, running unopposed, received the greatest number of votes, with 868 each. Irving Tuckman won out over Albert Cooper by a count of 739 to 254 in a contest for business agent to fill the unexpired term of the retired David Geisler.

The other officers elected were: Murray Flahman, president; Herman (Jerry) Geronimus, 1st vice-president; Albert Reiner, 2nd vice-president; Sam Lugar, recording secretary; Jack Frost, treasurer; and Merritt Fastenberg, ser-

geant-at-arms. They were all unopposed.

Of the 21 candidates running for the Executive Board, the following twelve were elected: William Brown, William Colligan, Jerry Rabin, Israel Smith, Forrest Keesler, Alfred Suffin, Samuel Schifter, Irving Rabinow, Alfred Wachtel, Roy Goldsmith, Sam Paskell and Matthew Gandolfo.

One new member was added to the Board of Trustees with the election of Irving Krutoff, who ran unopposed. The three members elected to the Welfare Board, also unopposed, were Carl Durham, Davis Saal and Larry Oshain.

The Midwest

500 in Toy Firm Want RWDSU As Phoney Pact Is Overthrown

LEETSDALE, Pa.—With a phoney labor agreement out of the way, a certification election early next year among the 500 workers of the General Molds and Plastics Corp., a toy firm, is expected to climax a long and involved campaign with the RWDSU chosen as bargaining representative, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Charles E. Hess.

The drive to bring the big Western Pennsylvania plastics factory into the RWDSU fold began in June, 1958, Hess recalled. Soon after, the company made a "backdoor" agreement with District 50 of the United Mine Workers which the National Labor Relations Board subsequently ordered to be dissolved.

In a ruling dated last Nov. 21, the Board confirmed a trial examiner's findings that there had been collusion between the management and District 50. The Board ruled that all employees be reimbursed in full for any dues collected from them under the phoney agreement.

At this point, the RWDSU petitioned for an election. Hess explained, however, that the voting will be postponed until workers are recalled after the seasonal layoff. That, he added, might be as late as April, 1959. The plant makes molded plastic, battery-controlled mechanical toys.

Confident of Winning

"The workers appreciate the efforts of the RWDSU and the AFL-CIO in their behalf," said Hess, "and we are fully confident of winning the election when it is authorized by the Board." The United Mine Workers is not affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

Aiding Hess in the drive and all through the NLRB hearings in the case was Frank Lassick, staff representative of the Pittsburgh office of the AFL-CIO.

"His work has been invaluable," Hess said, "and should be highly commended."

The RWDSU complaints of unfair labor practices against the General Molds and Plastics Corp. were all upheld by the NLRB. The company was found guilty of charges that it had "dominated and interfered with the formation and administration" of District 50 at its plant and "contributed financial and other support" to it.

The company was also found to have "further interfered with, assisted, promoted, supported and encouraged" District 50 "in granting exclusive recognition . . . and by entering into an agreement at a time when it did not represent an unassisted majority of the employees and when it was not the freely chosen representative of the employees."



PENN. LABOR DRIVE FOR CHRISTMAS TOYS: John and George Schutt, of Painters Local 969, Reading, Pa., add finishing touches to Toys for Tots headquarters sign. RWDSU members in Berks County are participating actively in the drive to provide a toy for every child in the county.

Job Loss in Auto Seen Permanent

DETROIT (PAI)—Automobile production is picking up fast in the Detroit area but rehiring of laid-off workers is not keeping pace. Latest statistics published by Director Max M. Horton of the Michigan Employment Security Commission reveal that the industry's newly automated plants can turn out all the cars that are needed without the manpower formerly employed.

A preliminary estimate of the unemployment figure as of November 15 indicates a drop of only 30,000 in the jobless rolls during a 30-day period when the auto industry was in the process of stepping up operations of new model cars.

The drop shaves the statewide figure from 360,000 to 330,000 unemployed. Al-

most all the decrease took place in the Detroit area where the jobless figure is now estimated at 200,000. A further decrease is expected to take place in December but not enough to offset what Horton predicts will be substantial unemployment through 1959.

"It is well-established that the auto plants, with their increased productivity, will be able to make all the cars they want with fewer workers," Horton said.

Await Ruling On Ballots At Coke Plant

PORSCHE, O.—RWDSU officials are confident that the National Labor Relations Board will uphold the union and deny the company's challenges of votes in an election at the Coca Cola plant here, thus adjusting the final tally in favor of the union.

The count in the balloting held on Nov. 20 among the 20 production workers at the bottling plant was 9 to 7 against the union, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Charles Hess, but the union is protesting two votes cast by supervisors. The company contends that four votes were cast by workers ineligible because of insufficient length of service.

With the challenged ballots ruled upon as the union believes they should be, the final vote will be something like 11 to 9 (or 10) in favor of the RWDSU, Hess explained.

The Pepsi-Cola and Barq's bottling plants here, with some 20 employees each, were organized by the RWDSU about three years ago.

Marzetti Food Votes on Union

COLUMBUS, O.—A representation election among production employees of the T. Marzetti Co. on Dec. 18, as The Record went to press, was expected to bring the shop into the RWDSU fold, Int'l Rep. Ned Harkless reported.

It was a swift campaign at this food company whose "own brand" products, including a salad dressing, are well known in this area. Organization began on Nov. 5, and after two meetings with the employees, the union filed a petition for an election on Nov. 7 with the National Labor Relations Board.

The voting unit set by the NLRB covers Marzetti's production workers, including those in the packaging, shipping and receiving departments.

Talks Set for Contract At Nichol's in Ohio

POMEROY, Ohio.—Driver-salesmen of Nichol's Bakery here who voted for the RWDSU in an election Dec. 5 were preparing for negotiations for their first contract last week.

They will become part of an amalgamated RWDSU local, No. 21, covering locations in the Huntington, W. Va., area. Nichol's, a branch of a bakery in Martin's Ferry, Ohio, was organized by Int'l Rep. Edgar Johnson.

One of the demands in the negotiations will be an adjustment in the system used in credit sales. Up to now, when collections could not be made in such sales, the salesmen have been required to make good entirely on payments, which they contend is unfair.

Patrick F. Flood Dies at 70; Leader in Mich.

SAGINAW, Mich.—Patrick F. Flood, former business agent of Local 87 here, died Nov. 18 at his home in Ypsilanti. He was 70 years old.



PAT FLOOD

A well-known labor leader in this area, Flood also served as a secretary of the CIO Council and was a representative of the City Employees Association in Bay City. At one time, he was a member of Local 2015 of the United Steel Workers.

Flood was a native of Paterson, N.J., and lived in Bay City for 25 years before moving to Ypsilanti.

20c Hike for 100 at Rieck's Dairy in Pa.

ALTOONA, Pa.—A twenty-cents-an-hour wage increase was won in a new contract recently negotiated by Local 382 and Rieck's Dairy Co., which operates plants in this city and in Bedford, Barnsboro and Duncannon, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Ernest Burberg.

C-of-C Program: \$\$ First

COLUMBUS, Ohio (PAI)—"Let the States do it," has become the regular chant of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce whenever appropriations for the social services come before Congress at the Nation's Capital.

Yet here is what the Ohio Chamber of Commerce wants the Ohio State Legislature to do on the State level:

- Cut financial aid to hospitals \$3,000,000.
- Cut aid to schools \$56,000,000.
- Limit state aid for local poor relief to \$25,000,000.
- Cut state help for police and firemen's pension funds, which also aid widows and children, by \$3,000,000 a year.
- Cut the state payroll by at least \$8,500,000.

Commenting on this State Chamber of Commerce program, the Ohio AFL-CIO news bulletin "News and Views" says: "Some had thought that the day was fast approaching when the Ohio Chamber of Commerce would have to lay down its over-supply of budget axes and give birth to a forward-looking, positive-type program that reflected some awareness of the responsibility of state governments toward the less fortunate. But it is evident that the day of awakening is still very far away. The Chamber continues to hold fast to the theory that the best way to save money is to waste people."

The new agreement, which became effective last Nov. 1 and extends to Nov. 1, 1960, covers close to 100 workers. Under its terms, they received half the increase last Nov. 1, with the other half due on the first anniversary date. Cooler men and cooler foremen get an additional five cents an hour.

In addition to the wage raise, the workers also gained three days' paid leave in case of death in their immediate families. Holidays are to be counted as days worked in computing overtime if they are scheduled days of work.

Health Coverage Changed

A change from the company-paid Blue Cross and Blue Shield to the Accidental Health Plan, effective Feb. 1, 1959, is called for in the new pact. The change, according to Burberg, "will give additional and greater benefits than the members are now enjoying under Blue Cross."

Negotiations for the agreement were carried on by Local 382 Pres. Inzy E. Grace, Sec. Cecil E. Rhodes, Charley Mitchell, Norman Drennan and Arthur H. Walters.

Safeway Talks on as Texas Drive Widens

DALLAS, Tex.—Negotiations for the first RWDSU contract covering 150 employees of 11 Safeway stores in West Texas were under way last week as the union's organizing drive in the Lone Star State continued to make steady progress.

Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps entered the bargaining talks on Wednesday, Dec. 17, with union negotiators facing serious roadblocks to an agreement set up by the company. The organizing drive is being led by Int'l Rep. James Pearce.

Meanwhile, the RWDSU filed for elections in two other Safeway and two Piggly Wiggly supermarkets employing a total of over 100 workers. The Safeway stores are located in Tyler and Longview, and the Piggly Wiggly stores in Big Spring and Sherman-Dennison. Each of these stores has from 20 to 30 employees.

Pearce said that other stores in both West and East Texas are in process of being organized and that additional petitions would soon be filed for elections among their employees.

The towns where Safeway workers had voted for the RWDSU are Sweetwater, Big Spring, Brownwood, Ballinger, Snyder and San Angelo. Balloting on Oct. 7 and 8 showed a two-to-one margin for the union, and certification by the National Labor Relations Board followed.

The union's successful drive followed a similarly successful campaign by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen to organize the meat department employees of the Safeway stores.



TEXAS-STYLE CHRISTMAS PACKAGE: Just as she is, without any more wrapping, Kathy Grant makes a nice Christmas gift. Now Mrs. Bing Crosby, the Texas-born beauty demonstrated what Bing is likely to find beneath his Xmas tree.

Wage Boosts for 245 Won At 4 Birmingham Shops

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Wage increases were won in four recent RWDSU contract settlements covering some 245 workers in Birmingham, it was reported by Ass't Area Director Frank Parker.

In a wage reopening in the pact at the Jaffe-Wohl Iron & Metal Co., the 110 employees received a 5-cents-across-the-board raise. An adjustment in job classification was also obtained in the pact

which expires in June 1959. The negotiating committee consisted of Shop Steward G. W. Stewart, Lloyd Robinson, J. L. Crossley, Willie Martin, Alex Murphy and Melvin Sharp.

The one-year renewal of the contract at Adams Bros. Produce Co. contained a 2½-cents-an-hour wage increase for the 60 workers. In addition, incentive pay was increased by one-half-cent a carton in the tomato packaging department. On the negotiating committee were Leavie Sledge, Willie James Sanders, Calvin Morgan, Robert Mickin, Walter Woodruff and Mary Baldwin.

10c at Merchant Cigar

A wage raise of 10 cents and improved vacation and seniority provisions were gained for the 40 workers in the renewal of the pact at Merchant Cigar and Candy Co. The committee, led by Int'l Rep. Margaret Robbins, included Elsie Durbin, Gladys Denton, Alex Bearden and William Green.

The 35 workers at White Motors won a package worth 18 cents in the renewal of a two-year pact. A wage raise of five cents is retroactive to Oct. 1 with 7 cents due next year. Improvements in uniform allowances and locker accommodations were also provided. Alabama RWDSU Council Org. C. T. Daniels was aided in negotiations by a committee including G. E. Craig, Wayne Arnold and C. O. Nix.

Holiday Parties Start Early In Ala. Locals

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Christmas festivities began early this year in Local 436 and Local 436A.

On Dec. 4 the members who work at W. T. Grant held a Christmas breakfast attended by some 45 guests. Among them were the store manager, G. Walsh, RWDSU Area Dir. Frank Parker, and Int'l Reps. Bill Langston and Margaret Robbins. Chairman of the affair was Nola Sweeten.

Members employed at H. L. Green and their friends, numbering some 55 in all, attended a Christmas banquet at the Ensley Community Center on Dec. 6. This annual holiday affair was enlivened by music and singing. Sarah Limbrick was in charge of arrangements.

Key Inequity Adjustments, Wage Increases Feature Pasco Packing Pact for 800

DADE CITY, Fla.—Elimination of inequities in wages for a large group of the 800 employees of the Pasco Packing Co. here is the feature of a settlement reached in wage reopening negotiations by Local 43 of the RWDSU.

The group, consisting of some 175 workers, received increases ranging from 10 to 22 cents an hour. This was the first time that a re-evaluation of job classifications at Pasco was successfully negotiated, Int'l Rep. William Connell reported.

The other Pasco workers received across-the-board raises of five to 7½ cents an hour under the settlement. Wage scales now range from \$1.15 to \$2.22 as a result of the increases, Connell said.

Pasco, which uses one-fifth of the orange crop of Florida in its canning operations, is the largest processor of fruit juices in the world. The current 3-year contract there expires Sept. 30, 1959.

Connell pointed out that Pasco is the only plant in the citrus industry where employees get time-and-a-half after 40 hours, which is provided under the RWDSU contract. The plant has been operating seven days a week, around the clock, with pay differentials for the night shift.

The present number of 800 workers is about 400 below the number employed at Pasco last season, because of the plant's discontinuation of part of its operations owing to the crop shortage. The company has agreed that all new hiring will be done among laid off employees according to seniority.

Negotiations in wage reopenings are under way at two other Florida citrus plants under agreements with the

RWDSU, Connell said. They are Plymouth Products Corp. in Plymouth; and Southern Fruit Co. in Orlando. Each company employs about 250 workers.

Drivers Join Union At Ala. Bakery

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The 15 transport drivers of Interstate Bakery here have joined the plant's 185 production workers as members of the RWDSU, Int'l Rep. Bill Langston reported.

By a count of 12 to 2, the drivers voted for the union in an election on Dec. 12. Since they were scattered in far-flung locations in several bordering states, the vote was conducted by mail by the National Labor Relations Board.

Talks were to begin soon to bring the drivers under the terms of the present contract for the production employees, with separate pay rates to be negotiated for the former. The production workers were organized into the RWDSU two years ago.

The drivers haul the finished bread and cake products of Interstate Bakery to salesmen located in various parts of the South.

Montgomery McGough Bakery on Strike

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Confronted with a final management offer of two cents an hour as a wage increase after two months of negotiations for their first RWDSU contract, the 52 production workers of the McGough Bakery Co. here struck the plant Dec. 6.

The pay rate is 45 cents an hour be-

low that of the McGough Bakery in Birmingham, Int'l Rep. Bill Langston pointed out. But the modest demand of the Montgomery workers was only for a 10-cent increase over their sub-standard wages. With all its production workers out in a solid demonstration, the bakery plant is not even trying to operate, Langston said.

George Boone Dies at 57

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—George "Dan" Boone, an international representative of the RWDSU and a veteran of the labor movement in the South, died here Dec. 12. A victim of cancer, he was 57 years old.

Boone was a member and officer of various local unions, including the Packinghouse Workers, in this state and Alabama for 35 years. He became associated with the RWDSU six years ago in Birmingham. Later, he was transferred to Gadsden, Ala., and subsequently to Memphis where he lived for the past few years.

An outstanding chapter in his career was his leadership of a victorious 17-week strike at Grant's store in Gadsden three years ago.

"Dan Boone was a loyal and devoted labor leader," said Ass't Area Director Frank Parker in Birmingham. "Once people met him and got to know him, they could not fail to be impressed with his warmth and his shining integrity. He brought the real human touch to his work in the labor movement."

Surviving are his widow, six children and his father.

Regina Drive Organizes Dominion Stores Market; Certification Is Granted

REGINA, Sask.—More than 70 percent of the full-time employees of the big Dominion Stores, Ltd., supermarket here have signed applications for membership in the RWDSU, Int'l Rep. W. E. Smishek reported. Clear-cut majorities have been established in every department except the bakery plant where the Bakery & Confectionary Workers Union was certified as the bargaining agent one week after the store opened last July.

Smishek Heads Up Political Education Committee of SFL

REGINA, Sask.—A four-point program was adopted by the newly formed Provincial Political Education Committee of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor on Nov. 28. Named as chairman of the new group was RWDSU Int'l Rep. W. E. Smishek.

Following are the four points:

1. To request all labor councils and affiliated organizations to name a representative to enlarge the Political Education Committee.

2. To order a supply of discussion pamphlets issued by the CLC on the proposed new political party for Canada.

3. To call upon the CLC Department of Education and the labor councils to include political education courses in forthcoming union institutes.

4. To arrange a PEC conference to discuss the proposed political party to be held in Saskatoon at the beginning of the new year, and attended by representatives of all local unions and labor councils.

Cost of Living Up Again

OTTAWA (CPA)—Canada's consumer price index rose 0.2 percent to a record high of 126.3 in November, the Bureau of Statistics announced.

At the beginning of November last year the index stood at 123.3. The index showed rises in the cost of shelter, clothing, and "other commodities and services."

Vancouver Strike Ends in Victory

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Twenty-seven employees of Kingston Suppliers, packaging division of Canada Safeway, are back on their jobs with 25-cents-an-hour wage increases won through a strike that lasted exactly three weeks. Also gained was establishment of a labor-management committee to take up production disputes.

"This is a complete victory for the strikers," said Int'l Rep. Bud Hodgins, reporting the settlement.

The employees, members of Local 580, were forced to walk out on Nov. 10 after the company refused to move beyond a Conciliation Board award of 10 cents spread over a 14-month period.

The settlement came only three days

after the union had extended its picket lines to Canada Safeway's main office, thereby closing down its cheese division, housed in the same building.

The new pact, which runs for two years, gives 10 cents of the 25-cent increase retroactive to Jan. 14, 1958, when the previous contract expired, and five cents



Sask. Joint Board to Open Big Organizing Drive in '59

REGINA, Sask.—An organization drive for the coming year—to be launched right after Jan. 1—was planned at a meeting of the Executive Board of the RWDSU Saskatchewan Joint Board held here Nov. 29 and 30 at the CLC Union Centre.

The Board authorized the expenditure of \$10,000 for the campaign and requested the International Union to appropriate an equal amount to develop new organization in Saskatchewan, it was reported by Int'l Rep. W. E. Smishek. He said that a survey had resulted in setting a target of 1,100 new members in the province.

The Executive Board also set the dates of Feb. 16 and 17 for the bi-annual convention of the Joint Board, preceded by a two-day executive meeting. Among the major questions to be dealt with at the convention will be financial problems of the board caused by an increase in the International per capita from 75 cents to 85 cents, which was absorbed by the board.

Wages of the staff were reviewed by the Executive Board at the November meeting. Len Wallace was appointed to represent the Joint Board of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor Political Education Committee.

Strong Rights Bill Seen Essential Canada Need

OTTAWA (CPA)—"There is no room for complacency in Canada" about human rights, Mr. Justice J. T. Thorson, president of the Exchequer Court of Canada, told the opening session of the national Human Rights Conference here.

"There have been disconcerting legislative interferences with freedom, both provincial and federal," he continued, citing the Alberta Press Bill of 1938, the Quebec "padlock law" of the same year, the federal encroachments following the Winnipeg General Strike in 1919 and treatment of Canadians of Japanese origin.

Canada, he said, has "the most arbitrary system of expropriating property for public purposes in the whole of the civilized world." The espionage case, too, he continued, saw a "shocking disregard" of freedoms.

The Bill introduced by the government, he said, falls short of the targets it should aim at.

"The spirit of freedom is a sustaining and irresistible force, for freedom is essential to man's self-realization . . . Those who lose it through thoughtlessness do not deserve it," Mr. Thorson said.

An Economic Rights panel included George Mooney of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities as chairman, and William Mahoney, Canadian Steelworkers' director, economist Pierre Elliot Trudeau, and Prof. H. Woods of the McGill University Industrial Relations Center.

How Free Is the Employee?

Mr. Mahoney declared that the average Canadian employee is far from the ideal "truly free man," because he depends on many outside factors for his job and for his very existence.

Collective bargaining by itself cannot solve the problem of unemployment, he said: "We must aim at an economic order in which every Canadian will know he has a job available if he is willing to work."

These jobs must provide minimum living standards and opportunities for education, sickness insurance and "a dignified livelihood in old age."

feature Section

"a floor below wages . . .
a ceiling over hours . . .
and a break for children".



Sen. Douglas speaks at AFL-CIO Conference Dec. 4. With him are, from left, IUD Dir. Al Whitehouse, Sylvia Gottlieb of CWA and 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock.

Broader Wage-Hour Coverage in '59, Sen. Douglas Predicts

Following are excerpts from address by Sen. Paul Douglas (Dem., Ill.) at AFL-CIO conference Dec. 4 which marked 20th anniversary of the federal wage-hour law.

We pay tribute today to those who twenty years ago had the wisdom and courage to take action "to extend the frontiers of social progress" by placing a floor under the wages that may legally be paid to workers in interstate commerce and industry, by imposing a ceiling on the hours such employees could be worked, and by barring the products of oppressive child labor from the channels of commerce.

As twenty years of successful experience have amply shown, the Act has contributed significantly to the economic and social progress of our country. The principles of economic justice and fair play upon which it is founded have become deeply embedded in employer-employee relationships in our basic industries and commerce.

The basic coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as originally enacted, is still substantially unchanged. Additional exemptions have been written into the Act, however, on a number of occasions. In 1955, when we succeeded in raising the wage floor to \$1.00 an hour—in a drive in which I was proud to have had a hand—the extension of coverage was deferred when no positive recommendations or adequate economic data were forthcoming from the Administration.

The United States Department of Labor has therefore estimated that while approximately 24,000,000 employees in interstate industry and commerce are within the protection of the Fair Labor Standards Act at the present time, there are nearly 20,000,000 employees who are deprived of this protection.

Various proposals have been made over the years for bringing excluded employees within the scope of the Act's protections. Three major sets of proposals were introduced during the last Congress and will undoubtedly come before the new Congress.

The proposals endorsed by the AFL-CIO were contained in legislation introduced in the Senate by my good friend and colleague in many good causes, Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, and in the House by the late Augustine B. Kelley, Congressman from Pennsylvania. Under their bills some 9,600,000 additional employees would have gained the protection of the Fair Labor Standards Act, principally in the retail and service trades, large-scale industrial-type farming and construction.

The Administration, which as I have said refused to give us any recommendations at all in 1955 when I held hearings as Chairman of the Senate Labor Sub-Committee, finally came up with proposals during the last Congress which were minimal, to say the least. They proposed extending the coverage to some 2,500,000 additional workers—approximately

7,100,000 less than the 9,600,000 who would have benefited under the Morse-Kelley bill. The Administration's proposals also would have withheld overtime coverage entirely from most employees to whom minimum wage protection was to be extended.

Finally, as a result of hearings before the Senate Labor Subcommittee during the last Congress, Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, the able Chairman of the Subcommittee, introduced a third proposal. Senator Kennedy's bill, which was reported by the Subcommittee to the full Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, though without recommendation, would have extended coverage to some 6,000,000 additional workers.

Unfortunately, as a result of delaying tactics which were apparently employed to stall the legislation within the Senate Labor Committee, the Committee was not able to act finally on the legislation during the last Congress. Legislation to extend the coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act thus remains one of the major unfinished tasks of the Congress.

The task of devising effective legislation to improve the Fair Labor Standards Act is not going to be an easy one, in spite of our tremendously increased Democratic majorities in both Houses. We are still going to have to contend with the coalition of conservative Southern Democrats and Republicans which has been effective for 20 years in defeating or frustrating nearly every effort to pass legislation for the general welfare of all the people.

At the same time I believe that if we make sound choices, we can accomplish some worthwhile changes in the forthcoming session of the Congress. Let me indicate now what, in my opinion, these choices should be.

We can all agree, I imagine, that the workers who deserve primary consideration at this time in legislation to extend the coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act are the millions of employees in large department, variety and chain retail and service enterprises. These employees comprise the largest and most rapidly growing group of wage and salary earners in our entire economy. Yet only a minute fraction of these employees—only about three percent—are presently protected by the Act.

From the studies I have made, I am convinced that it is high time the larger establishments in the retail trade and service industries were put on a par, insofar as labor standards are concerned, with other major industries that are already under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

We are encouraged by the results of the election. The number in Congress of those who want to help the economically weak has been markedly increased. The election was a mandate, in my opinion, for more positive action from Congress and the executive to deal with our economic weak spots.



Giant gavel is presented to New York State AFL-CIO officers by Gov. Averell Harriman, center. From left are Louis Hollander, Ray Corbett, Pres. Harold Hanover and Sec.-Treas. Harold J. Garno.

New York Labor Unites

The largest state labor merger of them all took place Dec. 9 in New York, when state AFL and CIO organizations united. A combined membership of two million unionists makes the New York State AFL-CIO the largest of all state labor groups in the country, and a force to be reckoned with in the Empire State itself.

The merger, approved unanimously by nearly 3,000 delegates, climaxed three years of negotiations between the two state labor bodies. The RWDSU was represented in the merger talks by Vice-Pres. Julius Sum, president of Retail Food Employees Local 338. Sum was elected a vice-president of the new state group at the merger convention.

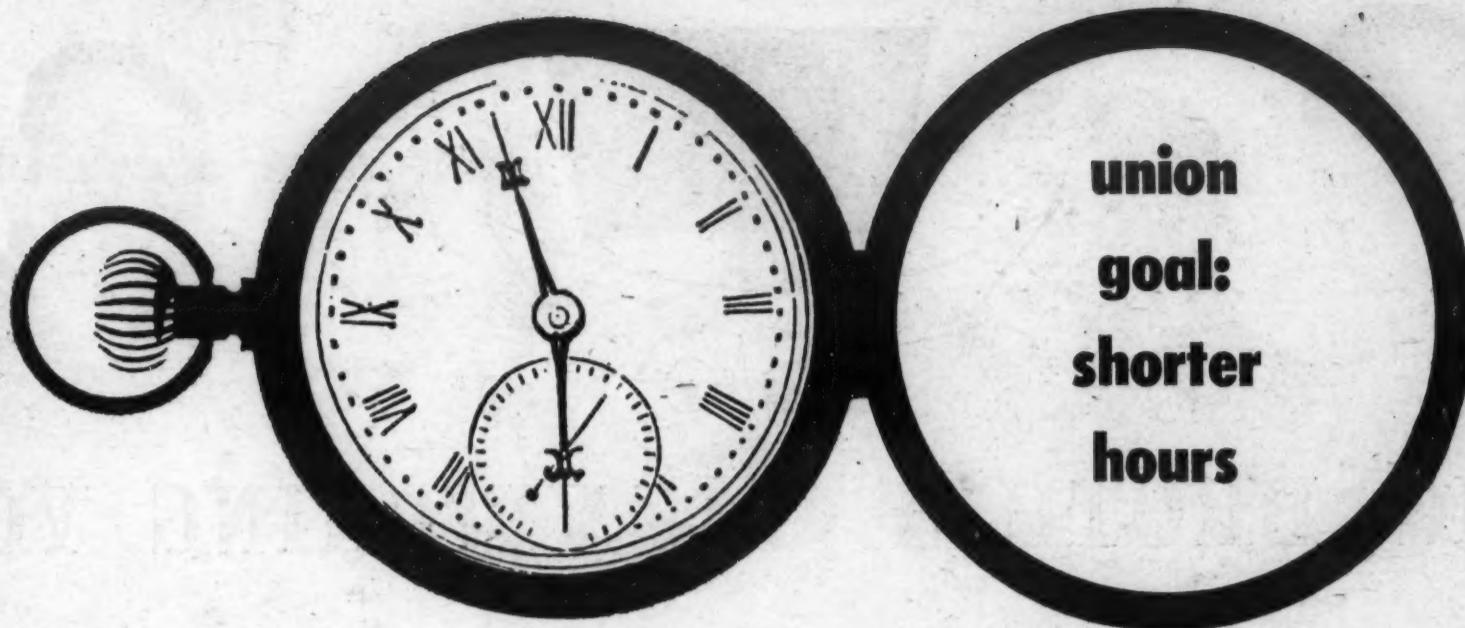
High point of the merger meeting was a stirring address by AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany, in which he warned that American labor would form its own political party if necessary.

"I have always said that we didn't need our own political party," he declared, "and I still say that. But if we come to that point and we have to lick the people who want to drag us back to the past, we'll start a political party and do a good job of it."

The delegates responded with cheers and a standing ovation.



Oath of office is administered to New York AFL-CIO leaders by George Meany, at rostrum. Next to him is Vice-Pres. Julius Sum of RWDSU. At right foreground is AFL-CIO Regional Dir. Michael Mann, also an RWDSUer.



The two biggest locals of the RWDSU—at R. H. Macy's and Gimbel's department stores in New York—will make determined efforts in collective bargaining early next year to cut the present 40 hours of work. Demands will be presented to the respective managements for a 35-hour work week for some 8,000 employees at Macy's, and for 4,000 at Gimbel's and its sister store, Saks 34th.

A shorter work week for Americans in all types of industry and trade is very much on the agenda in collective bargaining sessions these days. The reasons are simple:

- Automation is speeding up work tasks unbelievably in virtually all fields—office, store, factory and farm alike.

- The recession's effect on business operations is practically over, yet about 4 million are still unemployed. Continued heavy unemployment is predicted for next year, and perhaps beyond. To put it bluntly, industry leaders simply cannot guarantee that they can absorb the growing numbers of new workers emerging from high schools.

- Greater leisure for American workers through a shorter work week is not only *desirable* from a social point of view but it is *necessary* in order to sustain the vast business enterprises which depend on leisure time activities to supply work for many millions.

Help Create More Jobs

Longer vacations, the shorter workweek, and the shorter workday create jobs. Hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, airlines, and many other service industries are linked with the uses of leisure. These industries must grow if the nation is to prosper. Their survival and expansion depend upon two things—higher wages and greater leisure.

The America of today would not exist without the five-day week and the eight-hour day. Those who foresaw doom when these were achieved have been confounded many times over. Nevertheless, they still croak the same old tune whenever the problem of greater leisure is posed.

Extended vacations will be an important part of the coming leisure age. The time must come relatively soon when the three-week vacation is standard for workers with a year of service, while four weeks with pay after five years is taken for granted.

Although the movement toward shorter hours has not been rapid enough, significant progress has been made. Over the past years, America's unions have obtained what employers not too long ago dismissed as impossible.

As a result of union contracts, most industries now have holidays with pay, and the trend is toward more paid holidays.

A recent U.S. Department of Labor study showed that in 1940, only a fourth of U.S. wage earners had annual paid vacations—in most cases a maximum of one week. Most workers, it is true, still enjoy a two-week vacation with pay. As yet, three-week vacations are reserved for workers with 10, 15, or more years of service.

Collective bargaining, nevertheless, is continuing to exert pressure in this area. More workers

Labor Moves to Protect Jobs of Its Members As Automation Grows

are becoming eligible for three weeks after 10 years, while 20 percent of contracts included in the Labor Department survey already provide maximum vacations of four weeks.

The shorter workweek—through either fewer workdays in each week or fewer hours in each workday—has been seen by some labor observers as the next step forward in the march toward leisure.

Dr. Clark Kerr, president of the University of California, has forecast that a four-day workweek and a month's paid vacation aren't too far off for the average worker. Dr. Kerr may be somewhat on the optimistic side, but the probability is that he is right in at least one thing—greater leisure will probably include both the shorter workweek and longer vacations.

In Dr. Kerr's view, mounting population, increased productivity, and the stress on suburban living make increased leisure virtually inevitable. He has urged the adoption of the four-day week as the next step ahead because he feels that it is more practical than a reduction in daily workhours for most city workers. He is of the view also that the four-day week—at least every other week at the start—is more efficient for production as well as more valuable to the average worker.

The old bugaboo that increased leisure is bad for working people continues to be raised, despite the implications of today's industrial revolution.

Bosses Worry About 'Morality'

This argument is usually raised by employers having an immediate economic interest in present arrangements. Their basic position has remained unchanged since the start of time. Man, they argue, was made for work, and idle hands are the devil's surest friends.

"We feel strongly that the four-day week is something to be avoided as long as possible—not only for the immediate undermining effect on our economy, but also for the ultimate demoralizing effects on our individual and national character and strength.

"Over-extended leisure, we firmly believe, dulls the 'cutting edge' of a man's talents, intelligence, and pride of accomplishment. Or to put it more simply—too much leisure makes Jack a dull boy."

These words of Willard Rockwell, Jr., president of Rockwell Manufacturing, sum up the unsophisticated employer argument. This argument has it that more time off must lead to mass drunkenness and moral decay. A more sophisticated opposition contends that greater leisure will create a cultural crisis—that most people

lack the intelligence to cope with greater leisure.

This outlook does not necessarily proclaim that routine work is a virtue. It simply looks upon routine work for the great majority as the lesser evil.

No doubt greater leisure will pose problems. More cars going nowhere on already overcrowded highways are enough to make anybody shudder. And TV watching is a poor substitute for boredom unless the quality of TV is improved.

The facts seem to contradict both the Mr. Rockwells of our age and the more sophisticated who would limit leisure to the privileged few.

Mr. Rockwell's arguments hardly require an answer. There is small blessing in dull, routine work—whether manual or "white collar." Most people run from such work as from the plague. It fatigues the body, dulls the mind, and leads to cultural stagnation rather than to challenge and progress.

More Jobs Becoming Routine

With the new technology, more and more work has become routine. Automation gives no promise of relieving the monotony for most workers since it will, at best, substitute push-button for levers. On this basis, alone, there is strong argument for greater leisure.

A look at the crowded camping sites in the national parks, the popular art galleries, the do-it-yourself living in the suburbs, the extent of travel, the rise of symphony orchestras and the sale of hi-fi, the interest in better homes, the huge enrollments in our night schools of higher education, hardly spells a cultural vacuum.

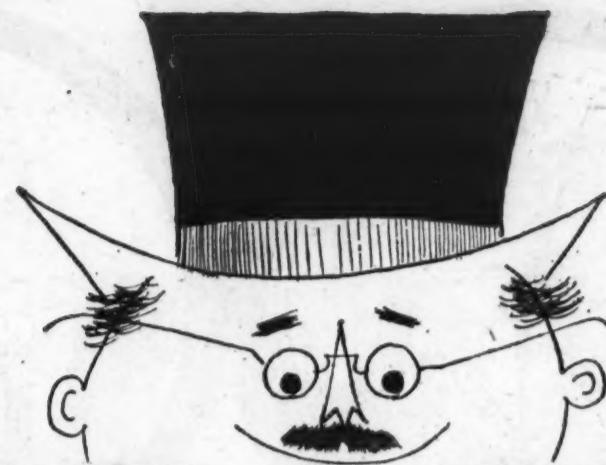
While these activities may not spell high culture, they are not to be sneered at and they certainly contribute more toward a fruitful and satisfying life than today's clerical and factory work.

Culturally and economically, America is far ahead of where it was 35 years ago when the 48-hour week was the rule and when time off meant loss of income. Greater leisure has meant a better life for most Americans and there is no reason to fear more of it.

While more time off has brought a greater appreciation of the arts and education to many, there is no denying the need to prepare for the coming leisure. Encouragement of wide-scale adult education is certainly in order. Educators must become fearless enough to propound the view that successful living and the big bankroll aren't necessarily synonymous. Less emphasis on "how to" and more emphasis on "why" certainly is in order.

Mostly, there is a need to understand that the American people are capable of successful adjustment to more time off in their own good time. They have done quite well so far and there is no reason to believe that failure lies ahead.

The new leisure will not be upon us overnight, but it will come inevitably because the sole alternative is a growing army of permanently unemployed. The nation clearly will not settle for the latter.



BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU

Employers Use New Gadgets to Spy on Workers

Our nation's respect for personal privacy may still be as strong as ever, but wiretapping, "bugging," and just plain snooping have become accepted as a necessary part of the business world.

Private detective agencies have multiplied into a booming industry employing over 150,000 people and taking in over \$250 million annually. In New York City, during the 10 years between 1945 and 1955, the number of such agencies mushroomed from less than a dozen to 450.

Despite the glamorizing of the "private eye" through TV and the movies, the job of the detective-for-hire is one primarily of "digging up dirt," not solving crime. In those few cases where a private agency uncovers a violation of the law, the facts are turned over to the police. To do otherwise would be to risk the agency's license to operate.

Private detective agency advertisements in classified telephone directories actually provide a much better description of the investigator's function than does the hero of detective fiction.

Typical ads speak of the ability of the agency to protect plant property, obtain divorce evidence and—in a growing number of cases—check employees.

"Employee checking," as described by one ad, consists of an investigation of "fidelity, character, and relations." Most of the larger agencies boast of possessing electronic equipment available to carry out this task "in complete confidence." As one agency points out, it has "secret electronic sound and evidence recording, transcription, mobile radio, and complete laboratory equipment" available.

It is the all-embracing term "security" that has been largely responsible for the private detective's new respectability and the increased demand for his services.

Today, our government has five official security programs in operation. The five programs—dealing with industrial personnel, port security, atomic energy, government personnel and military personnel—cover nine million Americans. Taking a lead from Washington, it is not surprising that industry has developed similar programs of its own.

In the name of company security, an employer can easily check labor organizing efforts, keep out known union sympathizers, and even discharge those who are not "loyal to the firm."

Security police forces, often under the direction of a former FBI man, have been resurrected in a fashion reminiscent of Harry Bennett's Ford days. While this new brand of security police may not use the Bennett strong-arm tactics, its results are much the same.

Loyal Employees Fired Too

Alfred Toughy, Republic Aviation's director of security at its Farmingdale, Long Island, plant, described his operations in a trade publication. According to Toughy:

"Fire 'em. That's my answer to anyone who asks me how to handle security risks in his plant. And that's exactly what we did to 250 of them."

"Of these 250, only 15 were known Communists. No matter. They all get the same treatment. . . . It's this way: All Communists are security risks. All security risks are not Communists, not necessarily subversives, not necessarily disloyal. In fact the most patriotic American could be your biggest risk. . . ."

"Several years ago, we encouraged employees up and down the line to report suspicious activities of fellow workers to the plant security department. We asked them to report this information directly to us and then forget about it. We'd do the rest. . . ."

Besides investigating employees and politicians, business firms are not above doing a little checking on their competitors. Three years ago, E. R. Squibb and Sons discovered that the telephone wires leading to the office of its president were being tapped in an apparent effort to learn of any new "wonder drug" the firm was planning to market.

Revlon, Inc., likewise found its phones tapped and its offices all "bugged" by a cosmetics competitor interested in the company's fashion program.

Some employers are not content simply to watch over employees

after they are on the job. These employers go one step further and seek a thorough investigation before a new worker is hired.

That this practice is not limited to key personnel is evident from the growth of such organizations as the American Security Council. The ASC, according to the *New York Post*, supplies industry with information on "subversives, would-be subversives, and could-be subversives."

ASC, the *Post* added, has a file of one million names and adds names at the rate of 20,000 a month. The Council's 175 present subscribers pay from \$30 to \$900 a year, depending upon their size. In addition, they are charged \$2.50 for each security check.

According to ASC President John M. Fisher, an ex-FBI agent, the Council makes up to 2,800 security checks a month and has an annual operating budget of \$100,000. Fisher admits that the Council does not double-check its information. It simply passes on to its client the data it has amassed, whether the information is good or bad, pertinent or unrelated. The sources used by the Council include Congressional and legislative hearings, newspaper clippings, and public speeches. Little is done to brand the information as either "reliable" or "unreliable."

Such operating methods permit the Council to add a continuous stream of names to its list. Unfortunately for those who are added, their offense may have been to criticize some aspect of national policy or to show interest in something that has—at one time or another—paralleled the Communist Party line.

The ASC also "collects comments" any individual may have made on the security provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act, the Smith Act, the McCarran Act, the Rosenberg case, or the activities of the House or Senate un-American activities committees.

Statements favoring integration may often be included as a criterion for "making the list," since Fisher has admitted that the ASC adds names mentioned by White Citizens Council leaders—an extra service for Southern businessmen.

The ASC is not an organization financed and operated solely by right wing extremists. While it is true that its patron saint is General R. E. Wood, aged chairman of Sears Roebuck and ardent supporter of the far right, many of its backers are established enterprises such as Illinois Central Railroad, Motorola, Marshall Field & Co., Kraft Foods, Federated Department Stores, and Quaker Oats.

Material Comes from a Pro-Nazi

Most of these organizations are apparently unaware that the backbone for the Council's present list was purchased from the estate of the late Harry Jung. Jung was a well-known anti-Semitic propagandist during the 1930's and an old-time labor foe.

In 1935, Jung was branded by a Congressional investigating committee as a "promoter of racial and religious hatred." At the beginning of World War II, his publication—*American Vigilante*—was cited by a federal grand jury as part of a conspiracy to break the morale of American troops.

ASC-subscribing companies, when questioned by the *Post*, claimed that they believed the ASC files contained information concerning individuals with penal records, people who are accident-prone, and others who have been in "some kind of trouble with the government."

Other companies are subscribers because they want to make sure they do not hire Communists. Fred M. Gillies, president of Chicago's Acme Steel Co., told the *Post* that "some people look better than the jobs they are seeking." Gillies believes that "if a man comes in to work as a steel mill hand and he speaks good English, it's best to check up on him: he may be a Commie spy."

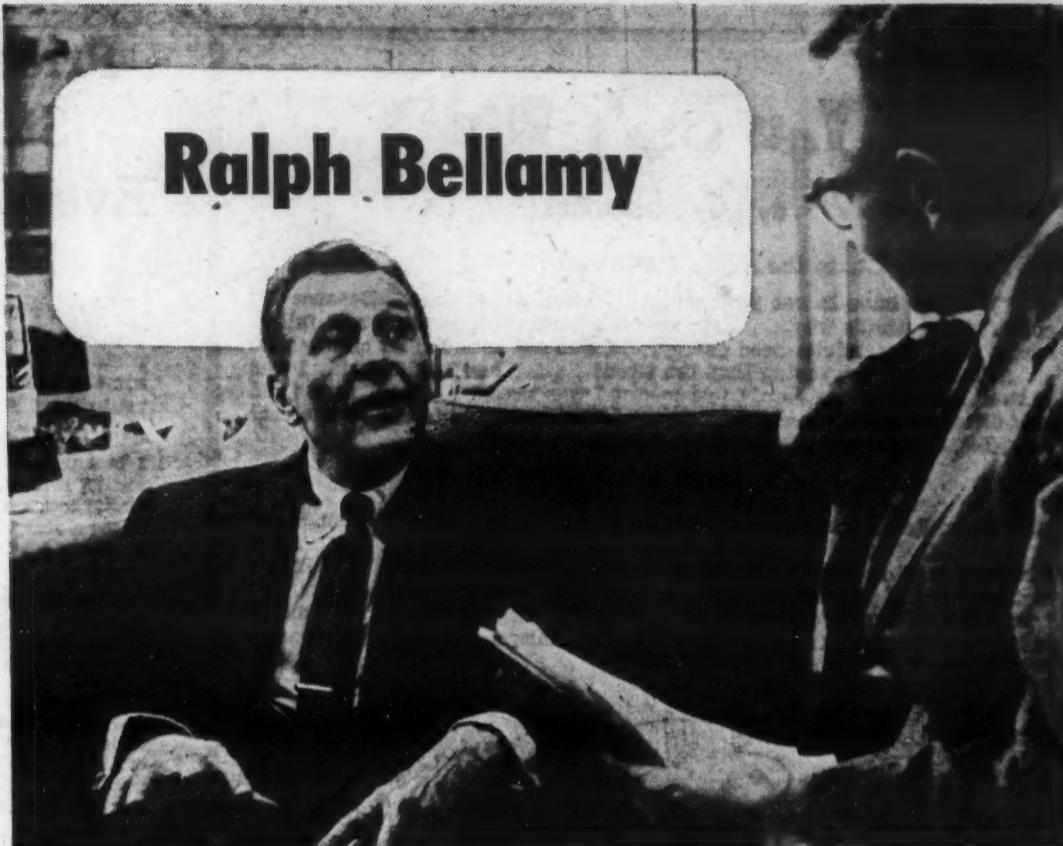
Unfortunately, the story of the ASC is not an isolated example of the renewed interest in private snooping. As the president of the Freeport Sulphur Co. told the Congressional subcommittee, it has become "normal business practice" for a businessman to learn all he can about everyone.

While today's businessman may still pay lip service to the Biblical admonishment: "love thy neighbor," society now permits him to add the words, "but investigate him, first."

A record

Interview with

Ralph Bellamy



Star of 'Sunrise at Campobello' talks to Hilbert Elson of 'Record.'

The Man Who Plays FDR Is a Labor Leader

By HILBERT ELSON

The stage manager at the Cort Theater popped his head into the star's dressing room. "Fifteen minutes, Mr. Bellamy."

The man who plays the part of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt in "Sunrise at Campobello" nodded without pausing as he held forth on some of views on his stage role and on organized labor in and out of the theater.

Ralph Bellamy, three-term president of Actors Equity Association, the union of stage actors, beamed with a kind of solemn pleasure, contemplating his portrayal of FDR.

"It's the kind of role I'd been waiting for all my life," he said. "The challenge to me is to satisfy people's own vivid image of FDR and yet not do an imitation. I think that imitation would be a night club trick and just detract from the play. So I suggest him, going to the inward man rather than to the surface."

And the experience to Bellamy is particularly satisfying because he has long regarded Franklin Roosevelt as a great man. "Yes, I went with him all the way," he said. "I was an FDR man!"

Portrayal of a celebrated man of affairs in a celebrated play, Bellamy is himself a man of considerable affairs off-stage, regarded by his fellow actors as "first citizen of the theater." The title points up how dramatically appropriate it is for this labor leader to be playing the role of another first citizen, the man fundamentally responsible for labor's "Magna Carta," the National Labor Relations Act, and other social legislation.

It must have been at least five minutes since the stage manager's 15-minutes-till-curtain signal, but Bellamy, still in his regular clothes and not yet made up, gave no sign to this reporter that there was any need for haste in ending the interview.

A Man of Decision

This was strikingly in character. For Ralph Bellamy is noted for his single-mindedness, his unruffled calm and his singular lack of temperament. In his attitude as he talked on was a suggestion of the assured executive, the man of authoritative decisions.

He turned to a favorite subject—the merger of all six performer unions in the entertainment field. "It's always been my big dream," he said, envisioning the gains that would ensue from an amalgamation of Equity and the other unions.

"My colleagues in Equity all agree with me on the desirability of a one-card union," he continued. "For the present, the autonomies of the

individual unions can stay as they are, but we're definitely in favor of a single union card and dues payments to one organization while the details are worked out toward a full organic merger, which might take years. One great apparent gain of merger would certainly be the power of numbers—about 35,000 members—in case of a dispute."

The only president in Equity's 46-year history elected three times, Bellamy has developed an instrument for improving labor-management relations in the theater, which he says represents his own philosophy that "any work problem is a common, mutual problem." This is the Equity League Committee, made up of representatives of Equity and the League of New York Theaters.

Aid to Theater Labor Peace

"The group meets regularly in the most informal atmosphere," he explained. "No power to conclude anything, but our relaxed discussion helps to clear the air, to create better understanding. It keeps us in a sort of continuous state of negotiations." He paused. "I wonder if such a committee wouldn't be useful in other industries."

Around Equity's headquarters just off Times

Square, the staff speaks of Bellamy with affectionate respect. He consented to run for a third term only after being drafted by petition. During his administration, the merger of Actors Equity with Chorus Equity was effected; the union was extended to Canada; fringe benefits such as hospitalization and insurance have been won; new standards for agreements with agents and producers have been set; rehearsal pay and conditions have been improved; Equity was put into new and better quarters, and the union's financial assets have been doubled.

Bellamy smiles at his multiple-presidency-terms resemblance to the man he portrays on stage. But then, presidencies came early in his career. At the start, as a matter of fact. It was almost 40 years ago that he was president of the drama club at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Ill., his home town.

Since then, the 54-year-old actor has appeared in more than 80 films (notably "The Awful Truth" and "The Court Martial of Billy Mitchell") and six Broadway plays (including "State of the Union" and "Detective Story"), and a whole catalogue of radio and TV plays.

"And, of course," he said, "this FDR role is the most challenging and satisfying of them all..."

"Five minutes, Mr. Bellamy," the stage manager signaled again.

Bellamy Becomes Roosevelt

A few moments later, Ralph Bellamy on stage became Franklin Delano Roosevelt at the age of 39. The play spans 34 months of FDR's life from Aug. 10, 1921, the day he was stricken by polio at the family's summer home in Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Canada, to June 26, 1924, when Roosevelt addressed the Democratic National Convention in Madison Square Garden.

With the painful help of braces and crutches, FDR struggled that day through ten faltering steps from his wheel chair to the speaker's stand to nominate Al Smith as "the Happy Warrior." It is on this scene that the play ends with Bellamy as Roosevelt standing on his own feet, ready to return to the world of affairs from which polio had threatened to exile him.

Even hardboiled Republicans are moved by this drama depicting the victory of a man's indomitable spirit over a physical and spiritual challenge. One of them told author Dore Schary: "If I'd known all this, I would have voted for the man—once."

Ralph Bellamy voted for him all four times.

"Yes, I sure was an FDR man!" he repeated as he walked to the stage wings to make his first entrance. "I wish he was around right now. We wouldn't be in the mess we're in today if he were."



Ralph Bellamy as FDR

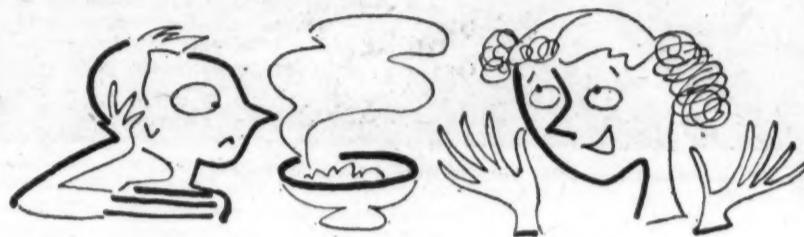
You Can't Win

By JANE GOODSELL

Arguments I have the feeling I didn't win:

"Yes, you have to eat your cereal . . . Yes, all of it . . . Because it's good for you, that's why . . . Because it's hot and nourishing and full of energy . . . Yes, adults need energy, too, but not as much as children do . . . I'm not always saying that I'm tired! . . . When I told Daddy I was so tired I couldn't stand up, I just meant I was tired . . . Adults get tired in a different way than children do . . . Yes, you have to eat your cereal . . . Yes, all of it . . . Because I say so, that's why!"

"When I said you should read more books, I didn't have 'Peyton Place' in mind . . . Because it isn't a suitable book for a girl your age . . . No, I haven't read it, but I've heard about it . . . yes, I know I told Lucy's mother I didn't believe in forbidding children to read certain books, but I wouldn't think you'd even want to read a book like this . . . I didn't read 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' until I was in college, and anyway it wasn't



nearly as bad as 'Peyton Place' . . . I don't have to read it . . . I just know it's worse . . ."

"No, you can't have a horse . . . Because we don't have any place to keep a horse . . . Yes, we have room for a dog . . . No, you can't have a dog . . . I just said we have room for a dog. I didn't say . . . Because dogs are a lot of trouble . . . That's exactly what you said the last time we had a dog, and it would have starved if I hadn't fed it . . . I don't care if your teacher said that every child should have a dog . . . I do, too, like your teacher! All I said was . . ."

"Yes, you can go to the dance with him, but only if an adult takes you there and drives you home . . . I don't care how careful a driver he is,



I'm not letting you put your life in the hands of a high school junior . . . Well, if his father won't, then yours will . . . Your father is a very careful driver . . . Well, even if he did get a ticket for driving through a red light, I don't think that's a nice way to talk about your father . . ."

"You certainly cannot have a permanent wave! Because you're too young . . . Because I don't approve of permanent waves for little girls . . ."



—'Record' Drawings by Marjorie Glaubach

Certainly I want you to look pretty . . . The reason I keep telling you your hair is a mess is because you don't comb it . . . Yes, I think Julie Gray has pretty hair, but she doesn't . . . She does? Well, if I'd known she has a permanent, I'd never have said she has pretty hair . . . Because I don't approve of permanent waves for little girls . . . I don't want to discuss it any more . . ."

Price Outlook for 1959: Stable Living Costs, Even Midwinter Drop Seen

By SIDNEY MARCOLIUS
Consumer Expert for The Record

After almost three years of inflation, your family will have a breathing spell in 1959 and a chance to improve its financial position. The outlook is for level living costs, with even a dip in some prices in midwinter, before living expenses start rising again next summer.

Last January this department had estimated living costs would rise 1 to 2 percent before prices leveled off in the fall. The actual increase was 1.7 percent. In all, the third major inflation since the end of World War II took a big bite out of the buying power of your dollar. It now takes \$5,400 a year to buy the same standard of living for a family that \$5,000 bought in 1956. Compared to ten years ago, the 1948 dollar is now an 80-cent buck.

Businessmen and investors managed to do very well in the inflation. The latest compilation of profit reports by the First National City Bank of New York found that corporate net profits after taxes in the third quarter of 1958 jumped 16 percent over the second quarter.

Biggest reason why living costs this coming year will be more stable, and give you some opportunity to catch up on delayed needs and rebuild savings, is that food will be cheaper. Food alone takes about 30 percent of a typical family's income. The bill for eating went up almost 3 percent from fall, 1957 to fall 1958. Meats, fruit and vegetables especially soared, and left families with little room to buy other foods.

But housing will be a big problem in '59, especially if you're seeking a new home. Not only are prices of new homes still rising, but mortgage money is getting tight again, the present high interest rates are firm and lenders are charging additional hidden fees.

Where to Look for Values

In 1959, you can make the best of your 80-cent bucks if you know where to look for values. Not all prices rise and fall at the same time. In food especially, and that's your biggest single expense, you can save by planning meals around those items that are comparatively plentiful and reasonable. In other goods, you can anticipate your needs when price increases impend.

Note this particularly: 1959 will be a year to avoid unnecessary installment buying or borrowing, or unnecessarily large mortgages. For tight money is coming back. That means higher interest rates.

Here is a forecast of prices and shopping conditions in various necessities this coming year, which will help you plan your buying:

IN FOOD, you'll find these items cheaper this year: pork, broilers, eggs, dairy products, potatoes. Other heavily-abundant foods which are good buys this winter include canned peas and cooking apples. Broilers are the cheapest they've been in the past two years. Turkeys will continue to be low-priced in early winter. Large ones are the best buys. Not only do they cost less per pound than the smaller ones, but a 15-pound hen turkey will yield 54 percent cooked meat compared to 45 percent for a 6½-pounder, and 49 for an 8½-pounder.

CLOTHING prices will be a little higher in '59. Some piece goods and household textiles such as sheets, drapes, and upholstery fabrics also will cost more as the result of price hikes by mills. One increase to watch out for is higher prices forthcoming in wash-and-wear fabrics and garments made of the popular Dacron-cotton blend.

Our advice is to beat the impending price increases by shopping the January clothing clearances. These sales offer you one of the best opportunities of the year to find price reductions on all types of apparel. Among important reductions this month are the semi-annual shoe sales, offering reductions of 10-to-20 percent on standard styles. Men's coats, boys' and infants' wear also are sharply reduced in January clearances. Fur coats also are marked down to the lowest levels of the year.

One of the best buys at this time are men's wash-and-wear shirts which some manufacturers recently reduced to \$4 while other makers have held the same shirts at the previous \$5 tag. But the pressure is on the \$4 manufacturers to boost their price.

Watch Out for Price Markups

Compare values in women's apparel carefully. Dr. Lazare Teper, Ladies Garment Workers research director, reports that some retailers recently have increased their markups. Without the knowledge of consumers, the stores have induced garment manufacturers to put cheaper garments in higher price lines. Thus, if you're accustomed to buying a \$10.95 dress, for example, inspect quality carefully to make sure it's the same grade as before.

The January White Sales give you a chance to anticipate your needs for sheets, cases, towels, blankets and tablecloths.

HOME FURNISHINGS sales both for furniture and household appliances start in late January. Simple modern furniture generally offers most reasonable value. Louis Goodenough, editor of *Home Furnishings*, reports that the most popular price range for a modern bedroom set is \$150-\$200, compared to \$200-\$250 for the more ornate traditional styles.

HOUSING prices are still rising. The F. W. Dodge statistical agency estimates that a house now tagged \$18,900 will cost \$1,000 more by the end of 1959. That same house cost only \$7,500 in 1939.

Moreover, mortgage rates have sneaked back up from the small reductions available for a while last spring. Latest reports are that most lenders are charging 5½ to 6 percent. New FHA or GI mortgages are available now. This is especially ironic, since Congress raised the GI rate last spring to the present 4½ percent in the expectation that lenders would be willing to provide more such mortgages.

New lenders are demanding discounts of as much as 6 percent on GI mortgages. Thus, on a \$10,000 mortgage, the borrower actually receives only \$9,600. But he must pay back \$10,000 and even interest on the \$600 he doesn't get. Theoretically, the builder who arranges for the mortgage pays this hidden extra charge. In actual practice, he must add it to the price of the house.

lighter side of the record

Philosophy

That my youth has been spent
I am fully aware —
That my Get-Up-And-Go
Has Got-Up-And-Went;
But I really don't mind
When I think with a grin
Of all the swell places
My Get-Up has been.

Sailing, Sailing

Drunk (after bumping into the same tree three times) — Losht, losht, in an impenetrable forest.

Now is the time . . .

The preacher was haranguing the congregation about the young people sowing wild oats. As he paused for breath, there came a voice from the rear: "Well, you gotta sow 'em while you got 'em."

Daffynitions

Pawnshop: The loansomest place in town.
Seersucker: Fortune teller patron.
Southpaw: A Southern father.

Sound Prediction

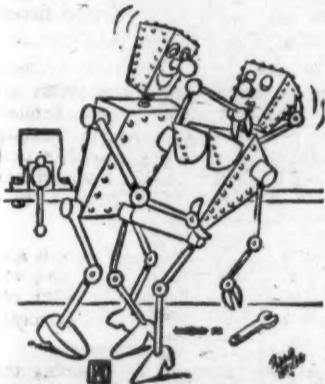
"Well, Mrs. Waggs, did the election turn out the way you expected?"

"Oh, yes. I was afraid all the time it wouldn't go like I said it would. And it didn't."

Candid Comment

One doesn't have to be a football expert to know that a halfback is what you don't get when you lend your wife fifty cents.

Diplomacy is the art of solving a world crisis by creating a new one.



"WE WERE MADE FOR EACH OTHER"



SLINKY: Dolores Morgan is a recording star and one of the prettiest members of AVGA.

Acrobatics

The sweet young thing was complaining about a stiff neck and sore arm after a recent week-end. "How come?" she was asked.

"We were necking in a drive-in."

"Why should that give you a stiff neck and a sore arm?"

"We were in different cars."

Poetic Injustice

Archie the office boy was fired and charged with the theft of \$500 in postage stamps. A crusading young lawyer successfully defended Archie because he was sure of his innocence. So sure that he decided to sue Archie's former employer for false arrest, defamation of character, mental cruelty, etc.

"It will cost about \$500 to file the suit" he told Archie "and I'm broke. Do you think you could raise \$500?"

"Not in cash," explained Archie, "but I can give it to you in postage stamps."

Censored

An American correspondent, proud of his first assignment to the Russian capital, was wiring his paper an account of a big Soviet parade.

"I stood within a stone's throw of Premier Khrushchev," he wrote.

Russian censors informed him that the story would have to be changed to: "I stood near Khrushchev. I threw no stone."

Financially Definitive

Sinking Fund: Your checking account toward the end of the month.

Capital Gain: The increase in the population of Washington, D.C. since the last census.

Common Stock: Garden variety of a tall white flower.

Federal Reserve: The reluctance of high government officials to talk about themselves before Congressional investigating committees.

Short-Term Bill: An Under-Secretary of the Treasury named William, who didn't last very long.

Marked the Spot

The 250-lb. man and his wife were returning to their seats in the theater after the intermission.

"Did I tread on your toes as I went out?" he asked a man at the end of the row.

"You did" replied the other grimly, expecting an apology.

The man turned to his wife: "All right Mary," he said, "this is our row."

Unreasonable

"Look here, private, this man beside you on this fatigue detail is doing twice the work you are."

"I know, sarge. That's what I've been telling him for the last hour, but he won't slow down."

How's Things?

We interviewed leaders in various fields to get their opinions on business conditions and here are the ratings:

Baker: "I'm making good dough."

Baseball Slugger: "I think there are too many strikes being called."

Doctor: "We need more patients."

Counterfeiter: "I'm making more money than I can spend."

Dressmaker: "Things are sew-sew with me."

Barber: "With everybody else screaming for a raise I'll take all the cuts I can get."

Motorist: "How can anyone get ahead with those traffic cops?"



ALABAMA FRAME-UP

Grand Jury Fails to Indict, But Strikers Still Face Chair

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—By the narrow margin of one vote, a grand jury has refused to indict one of two RWDSU members accused of a phony "bombing." However, his fellow victim of the attempted frame-up still faces indictment, and under Alabama law both men may be indicted by the incoming grand jury.

If an indictment is obtained by the county prosecutor, both men would be forced to stand trial on charges of bombing the home of a scab in the strike against the Perfection Mattress Co. Conviction on such a charge could mean the death penalty in Alabama.

The two men are John Richardson, 33, and Alexander White, 28. The Circuit Court grand jury voted Dec. 4 on the charges against Richardson. Eleven jurymen voted to indict, while seven voted against indicting. A single vote would have brought Richardson to trial on the capital charge, since a two-thirds vote of the grand jury is sufficient to hand down an indictment. White, who is now out on \$10,000 bail like Richardson, faces action on his case before the end of the year by a new grand jury, which may also indict Richardson despite the failure of the earlier jury to do so.

Both men involved in the company-inspired frameup attempt are leaders in the strike at Perfection which began on Oct. 14. A month after the walkout, a bomb was said to have been thrown from a car on the front yard of the home of Hulen Bibby, a scab. No one was harmed and no damage of any consequence resulted.

Though it was at night and Bibby thought there were "four other fellows" in the car, he claimed that he could identify both Richardson and White in the car. Both men were arrested and the Birmingham papers started a hysterical campaign for indictments of the two men, while the County Solicitor called for the death penalty.

Asst. Area Director Frank Parker termed the action of the grand jury in refusing to indict Richardson "a victory for truth and justice."

although he cautioned that "these two members are not out of danger yet."

"There is no doubt that The Record article Dec. 7 on the frameup served a useful purpose," said Parker. "Members receiving the paper down here showed it to their friends and neighbors and it revealed to them how Richardson and White were victims of an attempt to railroad two innocent men, possibly to the electric chair."

Nevertheless, the bias caused by the trumped-up charges has had its effect in the community. White has been ousted from his ramshackle one-family house, allegedly for non-payment of rent. When the union offered to pay the rent, the landlord refused to accept payment, and White, with his wife and one small child, have been forced to move in with his mother-in-law.

Meanwhile, the strike is continuing in its third month to cut deeply into Perfection's business. Replacing most of the 140 strikers with scabs, the firm has found that they are turning out products which are being returned by many customers as defective.

Though the union has been enjoined by a temporary injunction from secondary picketing of Birmingham retail outlets of Perfection mattresses, strikers are still handing out leaflets there asking the public not to buy the products. The union is planning to appeal the injunction, Parker said.

Mattresses made by Perfection are distributed to all parts of the country. Union members and their families are urged not to buy those products until the strike is ended with a satisfactory agreement for the workers.

The 140 workers walked out after two months of futile negotiations following an RWDSU election victory at the plant. Parker reported that the strikers are firmly united after more than two months of the picket line and determined to fight on to a victorious finish—despite scabs, injunctions, frameup attempts or anything else the employer may use in trying to break their spirit.

Frame-up Victims and Their Families



John Richardson and his family are united after his release on bail. His wife, Betty, holds Sandra, 8 months old. Other children, from left, are: Kathy, 4, Karen, 6, and Timothy, 2. Though Richardson, a Perfection Co. strike leader, was not indicted, the trumped-up charge against him may be brought before another grand jury.



Alexander White, also a strike leader, was released on \$10,000 bail on charges of bombing a scab's house. He and his family were ousted from their home by a vindictive landlord. Shown with him are his wife, Minnie and son, Alexander, Jr., 16 months old. Another child, a girl, died at the age of 4 months, ten days after the strike began on Oct. 14.